

# Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren

## Church Council Minutes

May 23, 2021 11:30 AM via Zoom

I.	<b>Welcome &amp; Call to Order</b>	<b>Moderator</b>
II.	<b>Opening Prayer</b>	<b>Pastor Jason</b>
III.	<b>The Process for Questions, Comments and Voting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Comments and questions will be handled via the Chat function.</li> <li>● A link to the voting ballot was distributed via email.</li> </ul>	<b>Moderator</b>
IV.	<b>Acceptance of Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● November 22, 2020 Fall council meeting</li> <li>● March 21, 2021 special council meeting</li> <li>● May 2, 2021 special council meeting</li> </ul> Minutes approved as submitted.	<b>Moderator</b>
V.	<b>Treasurer's Report (Exhibit A)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review of the income statement as of 04/30/2021</li> <li>● Question of clarity on the \$400k expenditures for the building project.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The expenditures are part of the Design &amp; Development phase per the 2019 Council approval to spend up to \$500k on this phase.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>Treasurer</b>
VI.	<b>Pastors' Reports (Exhibit B)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pastor Pam               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An update on meetings with the District in response to officiating a same-sex wedding: a letter was placed in Pam's permanent file noting her action. Pam expressed thanks to the congregation for the overwhelming support for both and the LGBTQ community.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Pastor Jason               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Working on many moving parts to be able to provide childcare and Sunday School for the return to in-person worship on June 6.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Pastor Josh               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Main focus has been on reopening and continuing worship for online and in-person.</li> <li>○ Completed last class and is working with the district to set up ordination.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Comments and Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Are there any limitations for in-person worship?               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Once we open up in June, there will not be capacity limitations or reservation requirements.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>Pastors</b>
VII.	<b>Request from Greg Laszakovits</b> The District requires congregational affirmation for Greg to maintain membership. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Action A item: Request to maintain membership in the Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren as per request from the ANE District Ministry Commission.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Motion to approve from Carroll Kreider. Seconded by Anna Belser.</li> <li>○ Motion passes with 97 "yes" votes and 1 "no" vote.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>Board Chair</b>
VIII.	<b>Reports of the Church Board (Exhibit C)</b> Highlights in addition to the written reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Christian Education Commission               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Received prior approval for a Zoom-capable cart, which can turn any room into a Zoom room. This was important as we think about the next phases for adult Sunday School. This allows us to bring in guest speakers via Zoom and for individuals to participate remotely. Similarly, this provides additional capabilities for Commission meetings, Board meetings, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Expressions Commission</li> </ul>	<b>Board Chair</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Focus has been on online elements of worship</li> <li>○ Looking to spend O'Donnell Fund allocation in the next cycle based on needs for reopening</li> <li>○ Great appreciation of the dedication of the A/V team</li> <li>● Nurture Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ See action item later in the agenda</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Resources Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Grateful for the completion of the elevator project</li> <li>○ Acknowledgment of the great work done outside by Kurt and Amy</li> <li>○ Thanks to Bob Hollinger for his many years of maintenance at the cemetery and appreciation for David Clemens for taking over that responsibility.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Witness Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chicken BBQ Fundraiser for Haiti Medical clinic was a success.</li> <li>○ June is our congregation's month for donations for the Community Cupboard</li> <li>○ Many other events on the calendar for the remainder of the year</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Deacons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Thanks to all the deacons and lay-visitors for continuing virtual visitation. With the church reopening, the plan is to start in-person visitation where both parties are comfortable.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Search Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Have requested the second step with a few candidates. Looking towards June for interviews.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Building Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Work is beginning in the Christian Ed wing with renovations on the men's and women's restrooms to make them ADA compliant.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
IX.	<p><b>Affirmation of Reports</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Board Chair</b></span></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Action B: Receive &amp; Accept the Reports of the Commissions, Committees, and Pastors</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jim Beckwith moved to receive and accept the reports. Seconded by Craig Coble.</li> <li>○ The motion passes with 96 "yes" votes and 0 "no" votes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
X.	<p><b>Vote on Nurture Recommendation</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Board Chair</b></span></p> <p>The Church Board unanimously recommends that the congregation affirm Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren's membership in the Supportive Communities Network.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Action C: Shall the congregation vote to affirm the Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren's membership in Supportive Communities Network (SCN)?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The motion passes with 94 "yes" votes and 2 "no" votes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
XI.	<p><b>Reflections and Questions</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Moderator</b></span></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Anna Belser expressed thanks for the positive way the meeting was conducted. The meeting flowed well and questions were able to be asked and answered.</li> <li>● Joe Detrick: With regard to virtual meetings, we need to take a stronger look at our constitution and bylaws and make some needed adjustments for the future considering where we've been and where we're headed with our life together.</li> <li>● John David Bowman: In response to Joe's comments regarding the constitution and bylaws, we should also re-evaluate the structural design of redundancy in our organizational process, as commented on by Pastor Greg before he left. We should examine the structure to determine how much of that redundancy is important for us all to feel in joint control and how much of it is simply administrative?</li> </ul>
XII.	<p><b>Concluding Comments and Prayer</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Moderator, Pastor</b></span></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The voting ballot will remain open for one hour and then the meeting will be officially closed.</li> <li>● Pastor Josh closed the meeting in prayer.</li> </ul>

Respectfully submitted,  
Alyssa Cross, Clerk  
May 23, 2021